

# **CITES/Production of Indigenous Natural Products Expert Namibia**

**OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking a CITES expert to participate in the review of a proposal for the production and sale of natural products in Namibia as part of a due diligence assignment with the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

**BACKGROUND:** DOI-ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating in seventeen countries with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) accepts development proposals from countries deemed eligible based on a series of economic and governance criteria. The Government of Namibia has submitted a proposal that includes a focus on the production and sale of five indigenous natural products (Wild Silk, Hoodia, Kalahari Melon Seed, Devil's Claw, and Marula). Hoodia is a CITES Appendix II species. The proposal also focuses on making improvements in other parts of the supply chain, including investments in quality control facilities, training for ISO certifications for these products, and construction of facilities for increasing capacity of oil production from these plants.

MCC draws on selected experts from the private and public sector to review proposals submitted by eligible country governments. DOI-ITAP is currently recruiting for a current or retired DOI employee who can:

- Analyze the implications of investing in a project that would be based on the production and export of indigenous natural products, including an Appendix II species.
- Analyze the environmental and social impacts of all aspects of indigenous natural product production.

**ASSIGNMENT:** The assignment will include providing review and comment on the proposal, and would include travel to Namibia (approx. 2 weeks). The DOI specialist selected for this assignment will work closely with the MCC staff in Washington, DC and the DOI-ITAP Program Manager.

**SCHEDULE:** This assignment is expected to occur during the period March – May 2007, with some degree of setting dates amenable to selected candidates.

**PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES:** All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP. Background materials will be provided to the selected individual prior to departure. The selected individual will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP Manager on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance over phone and email.

Within 3 weeks of the completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP Manager his/her analysis of the Government of Namibia's proposed actions.

**COSTS:** DOI-ITAP will cover all salaries, benefits, and travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, per diem, etc.).

### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Persons wishing to be considered for this assignment:

- Must be a current or retired DOI employee;
- Must have an expansive working knowledge of CITES, and the regulations on trade of Appendix II species;
- Must be familiar with the issues associated with the production and sale of indigenous natural products.
- Must have a demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups; and
- Previous international experience is desirable.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness-for-duty.

You must obtain your supervisor's approval to apply for this assignment.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment should send a resume or letter summarizing relevant work experience. A form SF-171 is acceptable. Please submit applications (electronically is preferred) to:

Barbara Pitkin  
Office of International Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW MS-3547  
Washington, DC 20240  
Tel: (202) 208-5221  
Fax: (202) 501-6381  
E-mail: [bpitkin@ios.doi.gov](mailto:bpitkin@ios.doi.gov)

All applications should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than COB, February 28, 2007.

Applications will be reviewed and interviews conducted as they are received.

All NPS applicants should also copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro in the NPS Office of International Affairs.

**Application Process**

A shortlist of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take several weeks. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, e-mail, or letter.

This position is open to all applicants who meet the stated requirements.